Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A bobbin for use in an electrical machine comprising a bobbin having a pair of opposing end caps connected by a sleeve, the sleeve defining an expandable ~~slit~~ seam extending completely along the sleeve ~~across a section of the bobbin~~, the expandable seam defined by overlapping hook shaped ends of the sleeve.

2. (Currently Amended): A rotor assembly for use in an electrical machine, the assembly comprising:

a bobbin assembly including a pair of opposing end caps connected by a sleeve, the sleeve having a split extending completely axially and completely radially through the sleeve ~~a section of the bobbin assembly~~ for allowing the bobbin assembly to expand;

an excitation winding wrapped around the bobbin assembly; and

a pole assembly for receiving the bobbin assembly wrapped with the excitation winding, the pole assembly including a hub sized larger than the sleeve to cause expansion of the bobbin assembly wrapped with the excitation winding.

3. (Currently Amended): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the pole assembly includes a front pole piece and a rear pole piece~~, the pole assembly including~~ defining an integrated hub for receiving the bobbin wrapped with the excitation winding.

4. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the bobbin assembly is a single piece component.

5. (Previously Presented): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the bobbin assembly comprises a first end cap including the expandable split, a second end cap including the expandable split, and a rigid sleeve including the expandable split, wherein the first and second end caps are attached to the rigid sleeve.

6. (Cancelled).

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7. (Previously Presented): The rotor assembly of claim 5 wherein the expandable splits on the first end cap, second end cap and rigid sleeve are aligned.

8. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 5 wherein the rigid sleeve is made from metal.

9. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 5 wherein the first and second end caps are constructed from a laminated structure.

10. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 5 wherein the first and second end caps are constructed from a polymer.

11. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the pole assembly includes a groove that aligns with the expandable split of the bobbin assembly.

12. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 2 further comprising a shaft that is received in a bore formed in the pole assembly, and a slipring assembly attached to the shaft and in communication with the excitation winding.

13. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the bobbin wrapped with the excitation winding is press fit onto the hub of the pole assembly.

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14. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the bobbin assembly is made from steel.

15. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 14 further comprising an insulating layer positioned between the bobbin assembly and the excitation winding.

16. (Original): The rotor assembly of claim 2 wherein the bobbin assembly is made from an injection molded polymer.

17. (Currently Amended) A bobbin assembly for use in an electrical machine, the assembly comprising:

a first end cap;

a second end cap;

a rigid sleeve having an expandable split;

~~wherein~~ the first end cap and second end cap ~~are~~ being attached to the rigid sleeve and not unitarily formed with the sleeve~~.~~;

an excitation winding wrapped around the bobbin assembly; and

a pole assembly including a front pole piece and a rear pole piece, the pole assembly including an integrated hub for receiving the bobbin assembly wrapped with the excitation winding, the integrated hub sized larger than the sleeve to cause expansion of the bobbin assembly wrapped with the excitation winding.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original): The bobbin assembly of claim 17 wherein the first end cap has an expandable split and the second end cap has an expandable split.

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20. (Original): The bobbin assembly of claim 17 wherein the first and second end caps are constructed from a laminated structure.

21. (Original): The bobbin assembly of claim 17 wherein the first and second end caps are made from a polymer.

22. (Original): The bobbin assembly of claim 17 wherein the rigid sleeve is made of metal.

23. (Original): The bobbin assembly of claim 18 wherein the pole assembly includes a groove that aligns with the expandable split of the rigid sleeve.

24. (Original): The bobbin assembly of claim 18 wherein the bobbin wrapped with the excitation winding is press fit onto the hub of the pole assembly.

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